

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 IO-14

NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

NEAE-00 DRC-01 /152 W

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P R 041205Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6028

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 8279

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MCAP, AF

SUBJ: AFGHAN-SOVIET RELATIONS - SOVIET MILITARY MISSION TO  
AFGHANISTAN

REF: A) KABUL 7315 B) KABUL A-73; NOVEMBER 17, 1973

1. POLOFF ENCOUNTERED COL SIDDIQ TORRABAZ AT SOCIAL FUNCTION  
EVENING DECEMBER 3 AND RAISED ISSUE SOVIET EQUIPMENT WITH HIM  
(SIDDIQ WAS DEPUTY G-2 AFGHAN ARMY UNTIL RECENT REASSIGNMENT  
COMMANDER NCO SCHOOL). TORRABAZ STATED HE HAD BEEN ADC TO  
SOVIET GENERAL MOSKALINKO AND THAT HE HAD GONE "EVERYWHERE" WITH  
SOVIET MILITARY MISSION DURING THEIR OCTOBER VISIT. TEAM HAD  
VISITED JALALABAD, KANDAHAR, SHINDAN, MAZAR AND BAGHRAM IN  
ADDITION KABUL. HE STATED MOSKALINKO AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF  
MISSION WERE ALL COMPETENT, WELL-TRAINED OFFICERS. MISSION HAD  
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NOT MADE ANY SUGGESTIONS TO GOA PRIOR ITS DEPARTURE AND GOA

CURRENTLY AWAITING RECENT MISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING AFGHAN ARMY. IN SPITE MOSKALINKO'S REPORTED BACKGROUND IN ROCKETRY, TORRABAZ STATED MOSKALINKO HAD SAID NOTHING DURING HIS VISIT ABOUT AFGHAN NEED FOR ROCKETS OR MISSILES. TORRABAZ WAS EMPHATIC THAT NO MILITARY AGREEMENTS FOR RESUPPLY HAD BEEN MADE DURING MISSION'S VISIT. LIKEWISE, HE STATED NO EQUIPMENT HAD YET ARRIVED IN AFGHANISTAN AS RESULT MOSKALINKO VISIT.

2. TORRABAZ CONFIRMED ARRIVAL STRELKA MISSILES PRIOR SCHEDULED JESHYN PARADE (AUGUST 1973). HE SAID AFGHANS CURRENTLY BEING TRAINED IN OPERATION THESE MISSILES AND SHOULD BE READY BEFORE NAWROZ, MARCH 1974. HE ALSO CONFIRMED RECENT ARRIVAL SMALL NUMBER T55 TANKS FROM USSR (PRE-COUP ORDER HE SAID) BUT DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ARRIVAL SU-7 AIRCRAFT. HE SAID NEW TANKS WERE STILL IN KABUL AREA.

3. COMMENT: TORRABAZ' STATEMENT CONFIRMS IN PART IRANIAN MILATT REPORT CONCERNING PRESENCE STRELKA MISSILES AFGHANISTAN; BUT THEIR PRESENCE HAS NOT YET INCREASED AFGHAN DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY SINCE TRAINING STILL IN PROGRESS. HIS TONE AND MANNER IN SPEAKING OF SOVIET MISSION DID NOT IMPLY ANY EARLY ACQUISITION OF MATERIALS RESULT THIS VISIT.  
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